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| **URBAN UPDATE** | **5th June 2015** |
| **Main news****Jobs** – PRP – Design South EastRICS report on Placemaking and Value**Photo competition**UDG AGM next week **Entries invited for 2016 Urban Design Award for practices**Autonomous vehicles – speculation on impact**Bristol – venue for 2015 National Conference on Urban Design** Bleak prospects for place-based retail**How the length of your commute could be turning you into a cynic** | **from the Urban Design Group***A free service for all individuals and organisations who care about life in cities towns and villages ………planners – landscape architects – architects – conservation practitioners – engineers –surveyors – masterplanners – managers – urban designers - urbanists – health professionals - politicians – public*  |

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| **Forthcoming UDG Events****UDG AGM – Garden Cities Part II****Speakers: Rob Cowan, Yolande Barnes, Savills,** **Chaired by Ben Van Bruggen**10 June - 6:00pm - 8:10pm**The City as Developer**Wednesday 8th July - London **Weather in the City** Monday 20 July – London **Underground Urbanism** Wednesday 16 September – London **Join the StreetNW mailing list on**mailto:street-north-west@urban-design-group.org.uk**Other events****Academy of Urbanism****Academy of Urbanism Congress X****Health, Happiness + Wellbeing**4-6 June 2015, Birmingham <http://www.academyofurbanism.org.uk/annual-congress-x-birmingham/>**BOBMK Events**<http://bobmk.org.uk/our-programme/>Next events autumn**MADE**<http://www.made.org.uk/events/calendar/>**Designing Single private houses**16 June**Introduction to Design Codes**23 JuneMuseum of Walking[**Walking your way to creative thinking..**](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/walking-your-way-to-creative-thinking-tickets-16394126273)Park Row, London, SE10 9NF ...Tue, 9 Jun[**Picking up the pieces**](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/picking-up-the-pieces-tickets-16394718043)Meet at Canada Water Wed, 10 Jun[**Home Fronts - a Ruskin Walk ...**](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/home-fronts-a-ruskin-walk-in-shoreditch-tickets-16753239390)London, London, E1 6JU ...Sat, 27 Jun* <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/museum-of-walking-1213766303>

PTRC**Annual Transport Practitioners Meeting**1st – 2nd -3rd July - London<https://www.ptrc-training.co.uk/Portals/1/Documents/TPM/TPM15Leaflet.pdf>Urban Design London Events coming up – extensive programme some free, some charged/£175+VAT  (Free for subscribers)<http://www.urbandesignlondon.com/?page_id=3251>**Cycling Infrastructure Skills: London Cycle Design Standards4th and 11th June****Network Meeting: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems**10th June**Street Design Skills: Responsible use of Traffic Models**24th June**UDL HOUSING SPECIAL** **Density Debate**30 June**Housing Policies**1st July **Viewing and Assessing Schemes, a Built for Life update**2nd July **Design South East / Kent Design** Event Calendar<http://www.kentdesign.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Event-Calendar-2015-16-edited-14.4.15.pdf>**Growing a Place** UCA, Canterbury19 June**Introduction to Building for Life 12** Sevenoaks 24 June | . **Urban Design Group AGM** **+ Garden Cities Event**The AGM of the Urban Design Group takes place on 10th June 2015 at 6.00pm.  Followed on by the second in the series of events on Garden CitiesThere are many people who volunteer for the Urban Design Group – please show them your support by attending the AGM.  There will be reports on what has happened over the past year, and plans for the future. <http://www.udg.org.uk/events/udg-agm-garden-cities-ii>***Garden Cities Event*** *Follows on from the AGM***Yolande Barnes** Head of Savills Research reating value from places & funding large volumes of housing**Dominic Papa**, co-founder and Director of S333 Architecture + Urbanism Ebbsfleet & Almere compared, + models for developing garden cities**Jim Coleman** of Buro Happold tbc making a business case for Garden Cities *Plus* **Rob Cowan** on Ebenezer HowardChaired by **Ben van Bruggen**, Van Bruggen Urbanism**The National Conference** **on Urban Design 2015****First Announcement****Bristol 8-9-10 October**This year’s conference is happening in Bristol, one of the UK’s most vibrant and successful cities, The conference this year focuses on the role of developers and housebuilders and how better design quality can help to achieve social and economic benefits and reduce costs to the public purse, yet still make a profit..**New on UrbanNous** **Health and Urban Design**cid:image002.jpg@01D0899F.F3623790<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/health-and-urban-design.htm>**Greening the city:** **Urban streets and verges**Ian Hingley. Landscape architect, Urban Movementcid:image004.jpg@01D0899F.F3623790<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/greening-the-city-streets.htm>***UrbanNous Catalogue available on-line*** *Go to the home page and move your cursor to where it says “Hover here to bring ideas to life”**Highlights include Christopher Alexander, George Ferguson, Hans Monderman and scores of others.* [www.urbannous.org.uk](http://www.urbannous.org.uk) | **National Urban Design Awards 2016*****Entries Invited for Practice Awards*** <http://www.udg.org.uk/content/udg-practice-award>**Francis Tibbalds Prize worth £1000*****Deadline 26 June*****Where do you read Urban Design? Prize competition*****This picture was taken in Jalisco, Mexico.*** ***Can you beat it!!*** The Urban Design Group will award two prizes to the best photographs taken during this Summer and submitted before 5th September 2015. The idea is to show interesting or original places in which members have read the journal. The competition is open to individual UDG members and the photograph (only one per member) should be submitted as a jpg at 300dpi for a minimum size of 190mm width, with your name, and the location of the photograph . The author of the best photograph, to be chosen by the Editors, will be given a year's free subscription to the journal; the runner-up will be sent a recent book about urban design and invited to review it for the journal. Both photographs will be published in the journal and online on the UDG website.**URBAN DESIGN Edition 134:****cid:image001.jpg@01D0899F.F3623790**Current edition sent  to UDG membersPast editions can be downloaded on the UDG website**Jobs****Nothing this week** **In the News – on the Air** **Underground Urbanism** Liz Reynolds who is organising September’s event on underground urbanism, was interviewed on ‘The Urbanist’ on Monocle24 Radio.  You can hear her from about 4mins in on the latest show - available on iTunes podcasts, or on their website: <http://monocle.com/radio/shows/the-urbanist/190/>**Super Density – The Sequel** Building on the first report (Superdensity – published a few years back), through a series of essays and case studies, the authors show that it is possible to create successful places based around streets and a variety of urban typologies, including houses and medium-rise apartment blocks, as well as some carefully integrated taller buildings. <http://www.superdensity.co.uk/>**Ian Nairn makes it into the Daily Mail** Why did we let Britain get so ugly? Sixty years ago, a visionary genius warned reckless development would ruin our country - the reality's worse than he feared<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3111661/Why-did-let-Britain-ugly-Sixty-years-ago-visionary-genius-warned-reckless-development-ruin-country-reality-s-worse-feared.html>**The affordable housing crisis – Radio 4 documentary** Looks at the veracity of viability statements<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05vzysp> |
| Urban Design around the World Australia**East Shores wins for urban design at AILA awards**<http://blogs.abc.net.au/queensland/2015/06/east-shores-wins-for-urban-design-at-aila-awards.html>**Aldi in Perth: Fremantle council sends supermarket packing**<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/wa-news/aldi-in-perth-fremantle-council-sends-supermarket-packing-20150605-ghgvd9.html>**Women take issue with city design**<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/women-take-issue-with-city-design/story-e6frg6nf-1227381963438>Canada **Designing Communities for Urban Living - Trees – Walkability – Functional Spaces – Sense of Place**<http://calgaryherald.com/life/homes/condos/designing-communities-for-urban-living>China**Atkins wins contract to provide urban design input on high speed rail project**<http://www.bdonline.co.uk/news/atkins-wins-urban-design-project-in-china/5075779.article>EU**EU regional innovation must unite public, private and third sectors** Smart urban design with a strong human focus.<https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/opinion/eu-regional-innovation-must-unite-public-private-and-third-sectors>**EU ready to work with cities and rise to environmental challenges**<https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/opinion/eu-ready-work-cities-and-rise-environmental-challenges>France**35 Story Carbon Neutral Wood Skyscraper Proposed For Paris**<http://greenbuildingelements.com/2015/06/04/35-story-carbon-neutral-wood-skyscraper-proposed-for-paris/>India**What Designing an Indian City from Scratch Can Teach Us About Urban Planning Everywhere**<http://curbed.com/archives/2015/06/03/what-building-an-indian-city-from-scratch-teaches-you-about-new-york.php>New Zealand**Wellington's Cuba Street to get a new paint-job**<http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/69142953/Wellingtons-Cuba-Street-to-get-a-new-paint-job>UK**Edible Bus Stop and Incredible Edible Lambeth come together to celebrate new EBS studio space at Loughborough Junction**<http://www.brixtonbuzz.com/2015/06/edible-bus-stop-and-incredible-edible-lambeth-come-together-to-celebrate-new-shared-studio-space-at-loughborough-junction/>**Could development plans for Northampton help solve poverty problems in deprived areas?**Article warns of the crime problems associated with the Radburn layout<http://www.northamptonchron.co.uk/news/local/could-development-plans-for-northampton-help-solve-poverty-problems-in-deprived-areas-1-6778745>But what is the cause of crime? Criminals, or the built environment? Is it that some layouts are less suitable than others depending on circumstances? And what is the role of maintenance?**Public debate Fife lighting choices** <http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/local/fife/fife-council-in-the-dark-over-lighting-options-1.879780>**The magic of Croydon: is London's punchline having the last laugh?**<http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/may/27/the-magic-of-croydon-is-londons-punchline-having-the-last-laugh>**The street that might win the Turner prize: how Assemble are transforming Toxteth**<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/architecture-design-blog/2015/may/12/assemble-turner-prize-2015-wildcard-how-the-young-architecture-crew-assemble-rocked-the-art-world>USA**AECOM & 100 Resilient Cities Launch Student Competition to Solve Urban Risks**<http://www.sustainablebrands.com/news_and_views/marketing_comms/mike_hower/aecom_100_resilient_cities_launch_student_competition_solv>**Design desperately needs social justice**<http://america.aljazeera.com/opinions/2015/5/design-desperately-needs-social-justice.html>**Empty storefront conference** <http://urbanmilwaukee.com/2015/05/29/empty-storefronts-meet-june-williamson/>**How to Fill Those Empty Storefronts**<http://urbanmilwaukee.com/2015/05/19/how-to-fill-those-empty-storefronts/>**City planning team says widening roadways is a sign of tunnel vision, not a solution to congestion.**<http://www.yourobserver.com/article/urban-design-studio-long-road-fixing-sprawl>**US Suburban Life Loses its Lustre**The ideal future suburb might be a combination of urban centres, rehabilitated buildings to serve community needs, and green spaces. Far from being dead, the suburbs are being retrofitted to address 21st century challenges and, for many people, they still hold the promise of a slightly retooled American dream.<http://blogs.voanews.com/all-about-america/2015/06/03/trapped-us-suburban-life-loses-its-luster/>Quote of the week“For 500 years creating a Utopia was at the heart of British planning, Planning is really at the head of a civilized society. But it has lost touch with its inspirational heritage.” “When was the last time someone read poetry out at a planning meeting?” Dr Hugh Ellis TCPA speaking at the Hay Festival**Harley Sherlock obituary**<http://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2014/may/25/harley-sherlock-obituary> | Latest Research, Policy and PracticeBuilt Environment**Artist Urges Urban Planning, With Lego**<http://www.wsj.com/articles/artist-urges-urban-planning-with-legos-1432941326>**Evidence of 8000 year old practice in urban design on Greek-Bulgarian borders**<http://sofiaglobe.com/2015/05/19/archaeology-bulgarian-dig-finds-8000-year-old-double-storey-houses/>**Waste heat from computers used to warm homes**<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-32816775>**Plug in device turns smart phones into infrared–heat sensing cameras** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-32759727>Politics Philosophy Economics **5 year forecast for UK retail premises by IGD**Large retail 2.9 percent fall (over 25,000 square feet)Medium retail + 0.9 % (less than 25,000 square feet)Convenience + 17 percentDiscount + 82%Online +  93%<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/retailandconsumer/11652760/Little-convenience-stores-could-become-a-big-problem-for-supermarkets.html>NB USA research has linked the opening of discount stores with a rise in obesity. **Placemaking and Land Value points to increase return from better design – RICS report**<https://consultations.rics.org/consult.ti/placemaking><https://consultations.rics.org/gf2.ti/f/571042/14826181.1/PDF/-/Placemaking_and_land_value_iConsult.pdf>Movement**World’s most friendly cities ranked**<http://copenhagenize.eu/index/index.html>**When it comes to cycling, Amsterdam wasn't always Amsterdam**<http://www.treehugger.com/urban-design/when-it-comes-cycling-amsterdam-wasnt-always-amsterdam.html>**Biking in Vancouver ranks 46th on list of 122 bike-friendly cities worldwide**<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/biking-in-vancouver-ranks-46th-on-list-of-122-bike-friendly-cities-worldwide-1.3101074>**How the rise of driverless vehicles could change the economy**Areas identified include Car sharing InsuranceParking Vehicle repairs <http://qz.com/403628/autonomous-cars-will-destroy-millions-of-jobs-and-reshape-the-economy-by-2025/>**Driverless convoy: Will truckers lose out to software?**<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-32837071>**Driverless cars will shave '£265' off insurance premiums in five years**<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/personalfinance/insurance/motorinsurance/11614723/Why-bad-driving-will-be-eliminated-by-2020-and-car-insurance-costs-will-plummet.html>**Auto-braking cars earn 10pc insurance discount** <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/personalfinance/insurance/motorinsurance/11623218/Driverless-cars-will-shave-265-off-insurance-premiums-in-five-years.html>**Beacon technology to help navigate the sepulchral caverns and tunnels of Tokyo’s public transport interchanges**<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-32031829>Humans Health Society**This Architecture Movement Wants to Trick You Into Taking the Stairs**Discusses the American Institute of Architects’ “Active Design Guidelines: Promoting Physical Activity and Health in Design.” <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/environmental/active-design-guidelines.pdf>Also refers to other measures some of which are counter intuitive… eg Providing benches has been shown to increase the amount of walking. <http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/architecture-urban-design-healthy-choices-exercise>**Length of commute correlates with burn-out and feelings of cynicism towards work**Sample size 1,942 Loss of sense of control increases stress* cyclists and pedestrians placed in danger by poorly managed streets
* unreliable public transport
* car pooling

Risk of burnout increases significantly when a commute lasts more than 20 minutes<http://www.nouvelles.umontreal.ca/udem-news/news/20150526-youre-driving-yourself-to-burnout-literally.html>**Walking or cycling to work correlates with lower BMI**Sample size 4000+ monitored over 2 years by UEA **Centre for Diet and Activity Research (CEDAR)**, University of Cambridge and the University of York study * switching from the car to walking, cycling or public transport is associated with an average reduction of 0.32 BMI, which equates to a difference of about 1 kg for the average person
* For those with a commute of more than 30 minutes, there was an average reduction of 2.25 BMI units, or around 7 kg (over one stone) for the average person
* switching to using a car to get to work was associated with a significant average increase of 0.34 BMI units
* The proportion of people in England and Wales who commute by car has increased from 42 per cent to 67 per cent over the last 40 years.

<https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/-/walking-or-cycling-to-work-could-help-you-lose-a-stone>The Centre for Diet and Activity Research (CEDAR) research team published a study on Walking or cycling and improves wellbeingConcluding that the longer people spend commuting in cars, the worse their psychological wellbeing. <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/-/walking-or-cycling-to-work-improves-wellbeing-university-of-east-anglia-researchers-fi-1>**Lack of sleep fuels low productivity study finds**Researchers from Rand Europe and the University of Cambridge found that employees who slept for six hours or less a night were significantly less productive than those who slept for seven or eight.<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/6faf8dd8-009d-11e5-a8e0-00144feabdc0.html>**Stress caused by traffic noise 'can increase risk of obesity', study claims**<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/stress-caused-by-traffic-noise-can-increase-risk-of-obesity-study-claims-10274893.html>**Obesity begins before birth**<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/health/news/article4451291.ece> |

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